

As the Director of Criminal Justice Initiatives with the Fletcher Group, Kathy applies her experience from working in the correctional field. She consults on matters involving the relationship between the correctional and legal system and recovery housing. This entails interactions with the judicial system, adult institutions, parole boards, probation and parole, and community corrections. Focus is placed on alternatives to incarceration and diversion from the correctional system. Stigma reduction and an understanding of the disease process are critical to achieving this goal. In advocating for this process, she has presented at various national and state conferences including the American Bar Association, State Justice Institute, Kentucky Office of Drug Abuse Policy, as well as various state-level legal and correctional conferences.

Kathy was employed by the Kentucky Department of Corrections (DOC) for approximately 30 years. She has worked in adult institutions in security, case management, and treatment programs. She spent much of her service involved in community corrections. In 1996, Kathy was a member of a small team that developed and implemented the community-based substance abuse program within probation and parole offices. As an administrator, Kathy was the liaison between the DOC and Recovery Kentucky Centers as established by then-governor, Ernie Fletcher. In this role, she worked to change attitudes and develop working relationships to implement recovery services as an alternative to incarceration. Kathy received her Bachelor's Degree in Criminal Justice and Psychology from Kentucky Wesleyan College. She later earned her Master's Degree in Criminal Justice from Eastern Kentucky University.